

### **Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The SAN **100** in **Figure 1** includes switch **112**, switch **114**, switch **146**, and router **117**, and consoles **110** connected to switch **114**. A switch is a device that connects multiple links together and allows routing of packets from one link to another link within a subnet using a small header Destination Local Identifier (DLID) field. A router is a device that connects multiple subnets together and is capable of routing frames from one link in a first subnet to another link in a second subnet using a large header Destination Globally Unique Identifier (DGUID).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In **Figure 8**, a portion of a distributed computer system **800** is depicted to illustrate an example request and acknowledgment transaction. The distributed computer system in **Figure 8** includes a host processor node **802** and a host processor node **804**. Host processor node **802** includes a host channel adapter **806**. Host processor node **804** includes a host channel adapter **808**. The distributed computer system in **Figure 8** includes a SAN fabric **810**, which includes a switch **812** and a switch **814**. The SAN fabric includes a link coupling host channel adapter **806** to switch **812**; a link coupling switch **812** to switch **814**; and a link coupling host channel adapter **808** to switch **814**.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Consumers **1103** and **1105** represent consumer operations 112, such as applications or processes, that employ the other layers for communicating between end nodes. Transport layer **1104** provides end-to-end ~~message~~ movement of messages (QP) 1114. In one embodiment, the transport layer provides four types of transport services as described above which are reliable connection service; reliable datagram service; unreliable datagram service; and raw datagram service. Network layer **1106** performs packet routing through a subnet or multiple subnets to destination end nodes. Link layer **1108** performs flow-controlled, error checked, and prioritized packet delivery across links, and also provides flow control 1120 between a media access control and a MAC.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 29 and extending to page 29, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Hardware in host channel adapter **806** reads the work queue element and segments the message stored in virtual contiguous buffers into data packets, such as the data packet illustrated in **Figure 7**. Data packets are routed through the SAN fabric, and for reliable transfer services, are acknowledged by the final destination endnode. If not successively acknowledged, the data packet is retransmitted by the source endnode. Data packets are generated by source endnodes and consumed by destination endnodes.